



Good Morning!

This past week I had the opportunity to join Attorney General Ashley Moody, law enforcement and education officials for a roundtable discussion on vaping among our youth.

In recent years there has been a dramatic increase in the use of vaping and electronic cigarettes among Florida's middle and high school students. Many e-cigarettes come in kid-friendly flavors to make it more appealing to young people. Most e-cigarettes contain nicotine and are highly addictive.

During the 2019 Legislative Session I sponsored legislation to address youth access to vaping products. Currently, retailers that sell electronic cigarettes and liquid nicotine products do not have to comply with the same restrictions and requirements that tobacco retailers do. Legislation is needed to require the same accountability, and allow law enforcement to verify that the retail businesses are only selling tobacco products to patrons that are 18 years of age and older.

I look forward to continue working with my colleagues and Attorney General Moody to address this issue as we head into the 2020 Legislative Session.

I consider it a great honor to represent all of the citizens and visitors of District 17. Please share [this link](#) with your friends and family so that they too can sign up for the [Mayfield Minute](#).

If you or someone you know needs my assistance, please don't hesitate to contact my office. My staff and I are here to serve you!

Florida Veterans Forward March Regional Summit

I had the honor of joining the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs for their Forward March Regional Summit in Brevard County this past week along with Senator Tom Wright.

Forward March, an initiative kicked off earlier this year by Governor Ron DeSantis, is working to unite the combined energy and resources of Florida's state agencies, veterans' service organizations, private partners and local communities to ensure the state of Florida is providing the very best services and support for our veterans.

During the Forward March Summit we met with Veterans from Central Florida to hear their stories, and address the issues facing our nation's heroes, while also finding ways to eliminate redundancy for effective delivery of veteran services. The Forward March

Summit featured breakout sessions focusing on housing, mental health, emergency assistance and legal matters to help Florida's veterans receive the best resources and tools they so rightly deserve.

"Forward March is the start of an ongoing effort to determine best practices and ensure the state of Florida sets the national standard for veteran services and support." said FDVA Executive Director Danny Burgess.

During the 2019 Session, the Florida Legislature passed important legislation to expand opportunities and services for military members, Veterans, and their dependents. The following bills were recently signed into law by Governor Ron DeSantis:

- [HB 501: Alternative Treatment Options for Veterans](#) provides alternative treatment options for veterans with traumatic brain injury (TBI) or post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).
- [SB 212: Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children](#) In collaboration with other states in our nation, the compact addresses educational transition issues for children of military families. This bill extends the sunset provision for the Compact.
- [SB 292: Education](#) allows a student who is graduating from a public educational institution to wear a dress military uniform to their graduation ceremony.
- [HB 427: Honor and Remember the Flag](#) establishes the "Honor and Remember" flag as the state's emblem of the service and sacrifice of the brave men and women of the US Armed Forces who have given their lives in the line of duty.

Volunteer Florida Funding Available to Nonprofits

Volunteer Florida recently announced the availability of \$395,000 in grant funding through the Volunteer Generation Fund (VGF) to help nonprofits recruit and retain skills-based volunteers.

VGF is funded by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) and administered by Volunteer Florida. It is expected that this year's VGF programs will help local nonprofits manage and support approximately 9,600 skills-based volunteers who will collectively contribute 72,000 hours of service throughout the state.

New organizations and second year sub grantees will be eligible to receive \$15,000 in grant funding. Third year sub grantees will be eligible to receive \$20,000 in grant funding. Sub grantees must provide a full match for their funding. Special consideration will be given to organizations involved in disaster services and organizations that work to reduce or prevent prescription drug or opioid abuse. To learn more, visit VolunteerFlorida.org.

District 17 Highlights

Public Meeting: St Johns River Water Management District

The St. Johns River Water Management District will be hosting a public meeting to discuss the management of the upper St. John's River Basin lands.

[St. Johns River Water Management Meeting](#)
Wednesday, July 24th 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Indian River County Intergenerational Recreation Center
1590 9th Street Southwest, Vero Beach
Rooms 131 B and C

At the meeting they will discuss new notifications of harmful algal blooms from the Florida Department of Health; updates on the Upper St. Johns River Basin project; and Upper St. Johns River Basin recreation management. There will also be opportunity for public comment during the meeting.

For questions, please contact Brent Bachelder (386) 643-1973 bbachelder@sjrwmd.com.

Brevard Schools Foundation Back to School Giveaway

The Brevard Schools Foundation will be hosting their 17th Annual Back to School Giveaway event where they will be distributing 2,500 free backpacks filled with school supplies for economically disadvantaged students in Brevard County.

[17th Annual Back to School Giveaway](#)
Saturday, July 27th 9:00 AM- 12:00 PM
Clearlake Education Center Gym
1225 Clearlake Rd, Cocoa

The Supply Zone, a service of the Brevard Schools Foundation, works with local businesses, organizations, churches and individuals to provide these free supplies to families who cannot afford to purchase their own.

Last year, 1,900 students who qualified for the Free or Reduced Lunch Program were given brand new backpacks, school supplies, books, hot lunches, dental screenings, and gift certificates to Hair Cuttery.

There are many ways members of our community can help make this event successful. Whether you collect school supplies to donate, make a financial contribution, or volunteer, your involvement can help put supplies into the hands of students in need in our community. To register for this giveaway event, or for information on how to support this effort, please visit BrevardSchoolsFoundation.org.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Elizabeth Schreiber at Schreiber.Elizabeth@Brevardschools.org or 321-633-3660, ext. 301.

Indian River County Receives Grant for IRL Master Plan

This week the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity awarded a \$30,000 Community Planning Technical Assistance Grant to Indian River County. The funds will be used to research and develop a management plan for the County's portion of the Indian River Lagoon.

Community Planning Technical Assistance Grants assist communities in creating innovative planning and development strategies to promote economic diversity while protecting environmentally sensitive areas. For more information please visit FloridaJobs.org.

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